

Message Text

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20

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 AGR-20 AID-20 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 L-03 H-03 PM-07 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-15

PRS-01 TAR-02 RSR-01 SAI-01 /201 W

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R 270721Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1391

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 4177

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR G&F DIVISION, FAS/W

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, AS

SUBJECT: PRC WHEAT PURCHASES

REF: STATE 135419

HONG KONG 7434

CANBERRA 4121

1. DESPITE STATEMENTS BY DOT MINISTER CAIRNS THAT SIGNING OF LONG TERM WHEAT SUPPLY AGREEMENT WITH PRC MAY BE EXPECTED SHORTLY, AGATTACHE OFFICE UNDERSTANDS DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN AUSTRALIAN WHEAT BOARD AND PRC TRADE DELEGATION JULY 26 ENDED WITHOUT FULL AGREEMENT REACHED. WHEAT BOARD DOES NOT NOW EXPECT TO SIGN AGREEMENT UNTIL SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER, AND CONFINED PUBLIC COMMENT TO STATEMENT IT WILL SUPPLY PRC WITH ANY QUANTITY AVAILABLE. MAIN PROBLEM INVOLVED QUESTION OF PAYMENT TERMS. TENTATIVE

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AGREEMENT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN REACHED ON THREE YEAR AGREEMENT

AND MINIMUM VOLUME, WITH AUSTRALIA TO SUPPLY 1 MILLION TONS 1974,
AND BETWEEN 1.5 AND 1.8 MILLION TONS IN SUCCEEDING TWO YEARS.

2. AWB GEN. MANAGER DORMAN REFUSED TO CONFIRM OR DENY THIS
INFORMATION, BUT SEEMED TO HING SUBSTANCE GENERALLY CORRECT.
DESCRIBED DISCUSSIONS AS EXCHANGE OF IDEAS, AND POINTED OUT MATTER
WILL STILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED BY BOARD AT NEXT MEETING AUGUST
9. STRONG PRESSURE FROM DOT FOR AGREEMENT WHILE PRC FOREIGN
TRADE MINISTER HERE, WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY REF. OF PRC CEREALS
CORP. HOWEVER, DORMAN INDICATED BOARD COULD NOT ACCEPT PROPOSALS,
AND FINAL WORDING OF AGREEMENT BY NO MEANS SETTLED.
HARROP

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CANBER04177
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973078/aaaaafx.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 135419
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <29-Aug-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRC WHEAT PURCHASES
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005